

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 02032 271203Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 NIC-01 EB-11 OMB-01 AID-20

SCS-03 SCA-01 DRC-01 SAJ-01 AGR-20 COME-00 /219 W

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R 270700Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7074

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 2032

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UV, TS

SUBJ: DEPARTURE OF NATIONALIST CHINESE

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 1974

1. SUMMARY: ROC AMBASSADOR SIU DEPARTED SEPT 25, IN RESPONSE UNCHARACTERISTIC VOLTAN REQUEST HE LEAVE TEN DAYS AFTER RECOGNITION PRC. APPROVED PROJECTS WHICH ROC WILL CONSEQUENTLY NEVER CARRY OUT REPRESENT ANNUAL PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF 44,000 TONS RICE, A VOLUME WHICH EXCEEDS TOTAL VOLTAN IMPORTS OF MASS-CONSUMPTION GRAINS IN 1972. ANTICIPATED PRC AID STILL UNKNOWN. SIU SAID HE HAS ASKED TAIPEI REQUEST USA REPRESENT ROC INTERESTS IN UPPER VOLTA. END SUMMARY.

2. ROC AMBASSADOR SIU MAO-CHI DEPARTED OUAGADOUGOU SEPT 25. SEEN OFF BY MOST DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES,
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PAGE 02 OUAGAD 02032 271203Z

INCLUDING SEVERAL WHO LACK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH

ROC BUT CAME "ON PERSONAL BASIS" OUT OF RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP FOR SIU. MINISTERS AGRICULTURE AND HEALTH ALSO SAW HIM OFF, AS WELL AS DIRECTOR PROTOCOL AND SEVERAL MINAG OFFICIALS.

3. SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER SIU TOLD AMBASSADOR EASUM HE WOULD DEPART SEPT 25 IN ORDER RESPECT TEN-DAY DEADLINE GIVEN HIM BY FONMIN CONOMBO (REFTEL). SIU DISAPPOINTED BY SUMMARY TREATMENT RECEIVED FROM CONOMBO WHO REFUSED EXPLAIN REASONS FOR SHORT-FUSE DEPARTURE INSTRUCTIONS AND UNWILLING REQUEST APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT LAMIZANA SO AMBASSADOR COULD SAY GOODBY "WITH HONOR." SIU THEN ASKED OTHER MINISTERS, SOME OF WHOM HIS CLOSE FRIENDS, TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT. THEY ALL REFUSED. SINGULAR EXCEPTION TO GENERAL COLD SHOULDER FROM OFFICIALS WAS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT JOSEPH OUEDRAOGO, WHO WEPT WHEN SIU MADE FAREWELL CALL.

4. TAIPEI HAS INSTRUCTED 45-MAN RICE TEAM AT KOU VALLEY PROJECT IN SOUTHWESTERN UPPER VOLTA TO RETURN TO TAIWAN WITHIN TWO WEEKS. TAIPEI UNWILLING DELAY DEPARTURE "LEST PRC REPRESENTATIVES ARRIVE IN UPPER VOLTA WHILE ROC PERSONNEL STILL IN PLACE." (WE KNOW OF NO SUCH IMPENDING ARRIVAL.) VOLTAN COUNTERPARTS UNREADY TO TAKE OVER; ONLY YESTERDAY DID GOUV NAME A VOLTAN FOR THIS, AND BOTH FRENCH AND CHINESE ADVISORS CONSIDER HIM TOTALLY UNEQUAL TO TASK.

5. SIU PERSONALLY CONVINCED PRC FORCED GOUV SET SHORT DEPARTURE DEADLINE FOR HIM AS CONDITION FOR UNSPECIFIED FUTURE ECONOMIC AID. HE SAYS PRC VIEWS HIM AS SPECIAL ENEMY BECAUSE OF HIS PAST ACTIVITIES AS ARMY GENERAL, SPECTACULAR SUCCESS OF ROC AGRICULTURAL PROJECT ASSISTANCE IN UPPER VOLTA UNDER HIS SUPERVISION, AND PROSPECT OF FUTURE SUCCESSES WITH ADDITIONAL PROJECTS ON DRAWING BOARD.

6. AMBASSADOR SIU TOLD CHARGE BULLEN LATER THAT LAST SPRING ROC APPROVED \$5 MILLION ADDITION AID TO GOUV FOR THREE NEW RICE PROJECTS INVOLVING 2,200 HA. OF
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PAGE 03 OUAGAD 02032 271203Z

IRRIGATED RICE LAND AND 4,000 HA. OF RAIN-FED "UPLAND" RICE. AT PROJECTED YIELDS, THESE WOULD HAVE PROVIDED 40,000 TONS OF GRAIN PER YEAR. UNCOMPLETED PORTION KOU PROJECT REPRESENTS ADDITIONAL 4,000 TONS/YEAR. RICE DECORTICATING PLANT AT KOU VALLEY IS ONLY HALF ASSEMBLED. WORKING LEVEL AGRICULTURE MINISTRY PERSONNEL TOLD BULLEN THEY DISCONSOLATE BECAUSE THEY KNOW WHAT IS BEING LOST AND BECAUSE THEY EXPECT PRC AID WILL BE SLOW IN

COMING, MODEST IN SIZE, AND LESS ADAPTED TO VOLTAN PRIORITY NEEDS.

7. SIU HAS INSTRUCTED ROC MISSION TURN KOU PROJECT OVER TO GOUV IN GOOD, ALBEIT UNFINISHED, STATE. NOT ATTEMPTING WITHDRAW ANY OF MATERIAL. HOWEVER, GOUV HAS PLACED GUARD ON PROJECT, RESTRICTED USE OF PROJECT VEHICLES, AND BLOCKED ROC BANK ACCOUNT BECAUSE GOUV FEARS ROC ATTEMPT REMOVE OR SABOTAGE EQUIPMENT.

8. ON DEPARTURE AT AIRPORT, SIU TOLD BULLEN HE HAD ASKED TAIPEI THAT USA BE REQUESTED REPRESENT ROC INTERESTS IN UPPER VOLTA. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENTS ADVICE ON THIS.

9. SIU AND WIFE WILL SPEND TWO MONTHS WITH SON IN DETROIT, THEN RETURN TO THEIR TAIPEI ROSE GARDEN.

10. COMMENT: WHILE VOLTAN RECOGNITION OF PRC HAD BEEN OF LATE INCREASINGLY CONSIDERED ONLY MATTER OF TIME, HANDLING OF ROC AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE OUT OF CHARACTER FOR UPPER VOLTA, PARTICULARLY WHEN VIEWED IN LIGHT SIU'S EXTREMELY DEDICATED AND EXCEPTIONALLY EFFECTIVE SERVICE ON BEHALF OF VOLTAN (AND ROC) INTERESTS OVER ARDUOUS FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. TAIPEI DECISION WITHDRAW TECHNICIANS SO PRECIPITOUSLY MAY BE IN PART RETALIATION FOR INTEMPERANCE OF VOLTAN ACTION.
BULLEN

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